

VA Boston Healthcare System

VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS) exists to serve the veteran through the delivery of timely quality care by staff who demonstrate outstanding customer service, the advancement of health care through research, and the education of tomorrow's health care providers.

The VABHS consists of three campuses: Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury and Brockton, where pharmacists are responsible for providing pharmaceutical care in a variety of Ambulatory Care and Inpatient settings. Clinical Pharmacy Specialists (CPS) are actively involved in the management of patients with various disease states and work closely with other health care professionals. CPS at the VABHS have prescriptive privileges under the supervision of an attending physician.

VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS) offers two PGY-1 residency programs: one with focus in Ambulatory Care (5 positions) and another with focus in Acute Care (2 positions). Residents in either track have the option to spend up to three months in the other practice setting. The two PGY-1 programs have separate match numbers and applicants can apply to one or both programs.



Residency Experiences

PGY-1 Ambulatory Care Program Core Experiences

Primary Care Clinic
Anticoagulation Clinic

Elective Experiences

Cardiac Health Clinic
Diabetes Clinic
Epoetin Clinic
Investigational Drugs
Mental Health Clinic
Oncology Clinic

PGY-1 Acute Care Program Core Experiences

General Medicine
Emergency Medicine
Critical Care

Elective Experiences

Infectious Disease
Renal Medicine
Glucose Management
Anticoagulation

Additional Experiences

Medication Use and Evaluation
P&T Committee
Pharmacy Newsletter
Continuing Education Presentations
Practice Management
Total Quality Management
Fiscal and Materials Management
Human Resources

Resident Project and Presentation

ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting
Eastern States Conference

Residency Program Details

The Ambulatory Care program is split into four twelve-week blocks. During the Ambulatory Care blocks, residents will be exposed to Primary Care, Anticoagulation, and other elective clinics. The Acute Care program is split into twelve four-week blocks. Four week experiences include general medicine, emergency medicine, infectious disease, acute care cardiology, medical intensive care, and cardiac surgery.

A large emphasis is placed on resident research projects. Each resident is paired with a project preceptor with research experience to mentor them through the process. In addition, an experienced Research & Development Committee and statistician are available for guidance. Residents are also responsible for obtaining IRB approval and applying for grants to aid in project funding. Research projects are presented at ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and Eastern States Conference for Residents and Preceptors.

Residents are exposed to a wide variety of additional experiences and opportunities. Some of these include participation in the VABHS P&T, Quality Management and Newsletter committees. Opportunities to design and deliver presentations for ACPE Continuing Education credit are available. VABHS has strong relationships that provide teaching opportunities with the two pharmacy schools in Boston: Northeastern University and Massachusetts College of Pharmacy.



Qualifications for Application:

- ◆ Citizen of the United States.
- ◆ Must obtain a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an accredited college of Pharmacy or be eligible for graduation before July 1.
- ◆ Eligible for pharmacist licensure in any US state before September 1.

Required Application Materials:

- ◆ Curriculum Vitae
- ◆ Official transcript sent from college of Pharmacy
- ◆ Three (3) letters of recommendation
- ◆ Letter of Intent stating:
 - ◆ Desire to apply to the Residency Program at the VA Boston Healthcare System.
 - ◆ Program(s) that the applicant is interested in applying for: Ambulatory Care or Acute Care (applicants may apply for both).
 - ◆ The names and titles of three references from whom letters will be sent to the below address.
 - ◆ Understanding of the requirement to forward a certified transcript from the college of pharmacy attended.
 - ◆ A brief statement of the applicant's short and long term goals as well as why he/she is applying to the VA Boston Healthcare System.

◆ **All application materials must be received by January 2.**

Forward questions and application materials to:

John Roefaro, PharmD
Director, PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program
VA Boston Healthcare System (119)
150 S. Huntington Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02130
John.Roefaro@va.gov

Interviewing Process:

- ◆ Applicants invited to interview will do so in person before February 28.
- ◆ Candidates will be interviewed by the:
 - ◆ Residency Program Director
 - ◆ Clinical Pharmacy Manager
 - ◆ All available preceptors
- ◆ All candidates will be required to give a twelve minute presentation during their interview. This presentation can be on a topic of the candidate's choice.
- ◆ The applicants will be independently rated using standardized criteria
- ◆ Selection will be made by a committee consisting of the Program Director, Chief of Pharmacy Service and all preceptors.

VA Boston Healthcare System's PGY-1 Pharmacy Programs are accredited by American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and participates in the National Matching Service.

VABHS is fully accredited by the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO)

VABHS is affiliated with Boston University School of Medicine and Harvard Medical School



VA BOSTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



**Pharmacy Residency
Program (PGY-1)
Ambulatory Care Focus**

**Pharmacy Residency
Program (PGY-1)
Acute Care Focus**